

**A STUDY OF THE LINE PROFILE OF H₂ LYMAN- β FROM
DISSOCIATIVE EXCITATION OF H₂⁺**

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ABSTRACT

A high-resolution ultraviolet (uv) spectrometer was employed for the first measurement of the H Lyman- β ($11\text{L}\beta$) emission Doppler line profile at **1025.7 Å** from dissociative excitation of H_2 by electron impact. Analysis of the $11\text{L}\beta$ line profile reveals the existence of a narrow central peak, less than 30 mÅ full-width-half-maximum (FWHM) and a broad pedestal base about 260 mÅ FWHM. Analysis of the red wing of the line profile is complicated by a group of Werner and Lyman rotational lines 160 to 220 mÅ from line center. Analysis of the blue wing of the line profile gives the kinetic energy distribution. There are two main kinetic energy components to the $\text{H}(3p)$ distribution: 1) a slow distribution with a peak value near 0 eV from singly excited states and 2) a fast distribution with peak contribution near 7 eV from doubly excited states. Using two different techniques, the absolute cross section of $11\text{L}\beta$ is found to be $3.28 \pm 0.80 \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^2$ at 100 eV electron impact energy. The experimental cross section and line profile results can be compared to previous studies of $\text{H}\alpha$ (6563.7 Å) for principal quantum number $n=3$ and of $\text{L}\alpha$ (1215.7 Å) for $n=2$.

PACS CLASSIFICATION: 34.80.Gs (ELECTRON SCATTERING - MOLECULAR DISSOCIATION), 33.50Dg (MOLECULAR SPECTRA - FLUORESCENCE)

INTRODUCTION

For many years high resolution studies in the visible region of the spectrum have been carried out on the Balmer series (principal quantum number, $n=3, 4$ and 5 excited states) of H produced by dissociative excitation of H_2 upon electron impact. For each principal quantum number, two major sets of kinetic energy distributions were found, corresponding to the "slow" and "fast" distributions with typical kinetic energies of near 0 eV and 4-10 eV, respectively. The principal architects of these measurements were Ogawa and co-workers.¹⁻³ They have carefully shown that the two kinetic energy distributions reflect effects of dissociation from singly excited bound states (slow component) and from repulsive doubly excited states (fast component). Recently, we have begun high resolution studies of the Lyman series of H from dissociative excitation of H_2 ,^{4,5} utilizing a high resolution 3-meter vacuum ultraviolet (vuv) spectrometer with a resolving power of greater than 50000. We reported the first measurement of the H Lyman- α ($H1\alpha$) emission Doppler profile from dissociative excitation of H_2 by electron impact. Analysis of the deconvolved line profile revealed the existence of a narrow central peak of 40 ± 4 mÅ FWHM and a broad pedestal base about 740 mÅ wide FWHM. Slow H(2p) atoms with peak energy near 80 meV produce the peak profile,

which is nearly independent of impact energy. The wings of $\text{H I } \alpha$ arise from dissociative excitation of a series of doubly excited Q_1 and Q_2 states, which define the core orbitals. The energy distribution of the fast atoms **shows** a peak at about 4 eV. In this work we extend the measurements to the 3p state and compare our results to line profile studies of $\text{H } \alpha$. The $\text{H } \alpha$ line profile shows a characteristic narrow central peak (-300 mÅ FWHM) from the slow component and a broad wing (-1.8 Å FWHM) from the fast component in the optical region. Since the Doppler displacement is proportional to wavelength, six times narrower line profiles can be expected in the vacuum ultraviolet (vuv) spectral region for the Lyman series.

It is also a goal of this study to directly measure the absolute cross section for $\text{H I } \beta$ at 100 eV for completely modeling the H_2 vacuum ultraviolet spectrum (vuv) for both calibration and astronomy purposes. Once before, in 1984 we have applied published $\text{H } \alpha$ absolute cross section results⁷ to a low resolution H_2 Vuv spectrum from our laboratory to determine the absolute $\text{H I } \beta$ absolute cross section. ~

The most important application of the Lyman series line profiles is the opportunity to study and distinguish the emission spectrum of hydrogen from its molecular and atomic forms. The advent of high

resolution spacecraft such as the Hubble Space Telescope, equipped with the Goddard High Resolution Spectrograph and the planned astrophysical extreme ultraviolet observatories have lead to the measurement of the H 1α line profile in both the auroral zones and the day glow. H 1α line profile wings extending to $\pm 1 \text{ \AA}$ have been measured in the aurora by HST and line core widths of greater than 140 m\AA have been observed by IUE.^{9,10} The primary cause of the dayglow is resonant scattering of solar emission with a broad line profile from multiple scattering. The main cause of the aurora is primary particle bombardment by electrons, protons and heavier ions followed by secondary electron excitation of the Lyman series. The large amount of Lyman and Werner band emission ensures that dissociative excitation of H_2 is an important process.

EXPERIMENTAL

The experimental system has been described by Jiu et al.⁶ in brief, the experimental system consists of a high-resolution 3-meter uv spectrometer in tandem with an electron impact collision chamber. For the H 1β line profile, a resolving power of 27,000 is achieved by operating the spectrometer in second order. The H 1α line profile has been previously

reported^{4,5} **and** was measured in third order at a resolving power of 50,000. The line shapes were measured with experimental conditions that ensure 1 nearity of signal with electron beam current and background gas pressure. In this study the line profile spectra were measured in the crossed beam mode; and the one, low resolution H I β excitation function was obtained in the static gas mode. The operating conditions for the collision chamber included an electron beam current of 130 μ A and an H₂ gas pressure of 2.3×10^{-4} torr. The electron -impact -induced -fluorescence line profiles of H I α and H I β at 100 eV impact energy are shown in Fig. 1, along with the instrumental slit function of the spectrometer in second order. It is found that the H I β line profile has a red wing that is blended by three moderately strong Lyman (L) and Werner (W) rotational lines, detailed in Table 1 among other rotational lines in the neighborhood of the red wing of H I β . One of the three strong lines is the L 1 (6,0) Q resonance line, lying furthest from H I β line center. The closest, the W 1 (5,3) Q rotational line lies 163 mÅ from H I β line center. We estimate the extent of the red wing by reflecting the blue wing about line center, It is shown as a dashed line in Fig. 1. The major wing of the H I β line profile extends 150 mÅ from line center. A very weak secondary pedestal wing extends to 175 mÅ from line center. By comparison the H I α wing extends 140 mÅ

(reported FWHM = 240 mÅ) from line center.^{4,5} The Doppler wavelength shift is proportional to the rest wavelength. Much greater kinetic energies are released during n=3p dissociation than for n=2p (Dissociation to account for the broader H1β line profile).

The weak signal from H1β in third order prompted the second order study. Yet note the line core FWHM is nearly (40 mÅ vs 38 mÅ) at the limit of the second order slit function. It is slightly narrower than the third order line core profile from H1α even though the H1α slit function was a narrow 24 mÅ that is indicated in Fig. 1. For this reason it will not be possible to accurately determine the slow atom distribution function as we were able to do for H1α.^{4,5}

1.1 H1β CROSS SECTION AT 100 eV

The first step in our comparative study of H1α and H1β was to measure the absolute cross section of H1β at 100 eV. We can find the cross section by two methods. One method relies on the absolute cross section of H1α at 100 eV, together with a relative calibration of H1α and H1β line intensities, and the other method uses the absolute cross sections of the three major L&W features in the red wing of H1β.

For the first method, the cross section of $11\text{L}\alpha$ has been measured to be $7.3 \times 10^{-18} \text{ cm}^2$ at 100 eV.¹¹ The relative calibration in the vuv at 100 eV, using the 1I_2 “many line” spectrum, has been described in fine structure.^{6,11} The two step process involved: 1) measuring the $\text{H}1\beta$ to $11\text{L}\alpha$ intensity ratio at 100 eV and 2) determining the relative calibration between 1025 Å and 121.6 Å. The wavelength calibration was performed in second order using the synthetic vuv line intensities of Liu et al.⁶ convolved to the same resolution as the experimental low resolution spectrum. Approximately sixteen continuous 2S Å wide spectral regions resolution provided a smooth second order calibration curve between 900 and 1300 Å. A typical first order FUV calibration curve is shown in Liu et al.” By applying this first method, the ratio of cross sections was determined to be $Q(\text{H}1\beta)/Q(\text{H}1\alpha) = 0.0412$ at 100 eV. $Q(\text{H}1\beta)$ is $3.01 \pm 0.75 \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^2$.

The second method gave an independent evaluation of the cross section. It is also a method that is free of instrument calibration. We have recently measured for the first time the L & W fine structure direct cross section energy dependence from 0 - 1 keV (Liu et al., unpublished). Using the oscillator strengths of Abgrall et al.^{12,14}, we are able to place on an absolute scale the cross section for every rotational line at 100 eV. The

three strong $1. \& W$ rotational lines found in the red wing of the $H I \beta$ line are shown in Table 1, along with corresponding intensities. The $(6,0)1^1L$ rotational line required a 40% correction for optical depth at the measurement pressure of 2.3×10^{-4} torr and the path length of foreground gas of 11.05 cm. The fractional $1. \& W$ area of the total blended $I \beta + 1, \& W$ feature in Fig. 1 is 42.4%. The ratio of $Q(I \beta)/Q(I \& W)$ is 1.36. At 100 eV, we find the cross section of $H I \beta$ to be $3.43 \pm 0.85 \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^2$. The average cross section of $H I \beta$ at 100 eV based on these two methods is $3.22 \pm 0.80 \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^2$. The total cross section of the blended feature in Fig. 1 is $5.69 \pm 1.40 \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^2$.

KINETIC ENERGY DISTRIBUTION OF FAST PRODUCTS

The determination of the kinetic energy distribution of the products is a two-step process that we have described in the previous paper on $H I \alpha$.^{4,5} The resolution of the experiment is not sufficient to recover the slow distribution of $H(3p)$ atoms. However, the width of the wings is broad with respect to the instrument slit function. On this basis it should be possible to locate the peak of the kinetic energy distribution function of fast $H(3p)$ and estimate the shape of the distribution function. The measured line profile is the convolution of the true line profile and the instrumental slit

function. Expressed mathematically the measured line profile, $I(\lambda)$, is given by the convolution integral

$$I(\lambda) = \int T(\lambda') A(\lambda - \lambda') d\lambda', \quad (1)$$

where $T(\lambda')$ is the true line profile at wavelength λ' and $A(\lambda - \lambda')$ is the instrumental response function. In the transform domain the convolution becomes a simple product,

$$I_T(s) = T_T(s) A_T(s), \quad (2)$$

where I_T , T_T , and A_T are the FFT of I , T and A , respectively and s is measured in inverse wavelength. Optimal Wiener filtering of the measured signal, I , was performed, since it includes a small noise component.¹⁵ Signal-to-noise ratio (S/N) is greater than 40 for all line profiles. The FFT of I is given by,

$$T_T(s) = L(s) I_T(s) / A_T(s), \quad (3)$$

where $L(s)$ is the optimal filter. We selected a cosine⁴⁰(s) to remove high frequency noise from the ratio of I/A . We show in Fig. 2 the inverse FFT (FFT⁻¹) of $T_T(s)$ for the 100 CV line profiles of H I α and H I β compared to the wavelength scaled H α results of Freund et al.¹⁶ and Higo et al.² The I β feature arises from a single multiplet corresponding to the transition 1 s-3p. However the H α feature consists of three multiplets from the transitions 2s-3p, 2p-3s and 2p-3d. Only the first H α multiplet (2 s-3p)

shares the Same Upper level. For that $H\alpha$ multiplet the line profile would be identical to $H\beta$ when scaled in wavelength by the factor $1025.7\text{\AA}/6563.7\text{\AA}$, according to the Doppler principle. In the comparison in Fig. 2, we have assumed that all three multiples produce the same line profile. This is plausible since their 3ℓ dissociation asymptotes are degenerate.

The first interpretation from Fig. 2 comes from a comparison of the 100 CV line profiles of $H\text{I}\alpha$ and $H\text{I}\beta$. The wings of the $H\beta$ line profile are broader and more intense than $H\alpha$. The FWHM of $H\alpha$ is 240 m\AA while the $H\beta$ line profile has a FWHM of 260 m\AA . The ratio of the two FWHM ($H\beta/H\alpha$) is a modest 1.08. This ratio can be used to find the ratio of the average kinetic energy for fast $H(3p)$ and $H(2p)$ atoms. The ratio is made larger by an additional factor of 1.41 when converting the Doppler shifts to an equivalent translational energy. More details on the energy dependence of the distribution are discussed below. As described earlier, we were only able to measure an unblended line profile for the blue wing of $H\beta$. We have assumed the red wing is identical. Since the $H\alpha$ line is slightly asymmetric, the same can be expected to be true of $H\beta$. The comparison of the $H\beta$ line profile with the two published $H\alpha$ line profiles is in quite good agreement with the results of Higo et al.² and verified recently by Ogawa et al.³ The comparison with Freund et al.¹⁶ is quite poor. Those

authors have pointed out that their $H\alpha$ line profiles were flawed by spectrometer aberrations. Note the $H\alpha$ line profile of Higo et al.² and the $H\beta$ line profile indicate the appearance of a weak secondary wing extending to nearly **200** mÅ from $H\beta$ line center. The initial indication from our data is that the line core of $H\alpha$ is broader than for $H\beta$ in Fig. 1 at the lower resolution afforded by second order for $H\beta$ we find a narrower line than for $H\alpha$. This result can be attributed to the energy scale relating to the processes for production of slow $H(2p)$ atoms from direct excitation, cascade and predissociation, particularly the latter.^{4,5,17,18} We place an upper limit of 30 mÅ on the FWHM of $H\beta$ compared to our previously reported value of 40 mÅ for $H\alpha$.

For the 100 eV line profile The kinetic energy distribution of the fragments, $P(E)$, is given by

$$P(E) = k(dT/d\lambda) , \quad (4)$$

where k is a multiplicative constant.¹⁹ With this approach, the 100 eV electron impact line profiles for $H\alpha$ and $H\beta$ in Fig. 2 were differentiated. The combined kinetic energy distributions of the fast and slow $H(2p)$ and $H(3p)$ fragments are shown in Fig. 3 for the blue wing of $H\alpha$ and $H\beta$ of Fig. 3. The results for the $H(3p)$ atom distribution show a peak kinetic energy at 7 eV compared to the $H(2p)$ peak near 4 eV. The high end of the

distribution releases H-atoms with 10 eV kinetic energy. The low end of the distribution begins at about 1 eV. We have previously shown that the H(2p) distribution changes with electron impact energy. A comparison of the results for H(3p) at 100 eV with those of Ogawa and co-workers is excellent. For example, their first measurement¹ of H(3d) kinetic energy distribution from H α line profile studies showed two kinds of kinetic energy distributions, an average kinetic energy of 7 eV associated with the fast group and an average kinetic energy of 0.3 eV attributed to the slow group. More detailed analysis of the Balmer series by Higo et al.² followed. They measured the line profiles for H α , H β and H γ . At an electron impact energy of 100 eV, the translational energy distributions had a fast peak at 7-8 eV and a slow peak at 0 eV.

The high kinetic energy fragments result from dissociation through a series of repulsive curves which involve doubly excited electron orbitals. These doubly excited states have been described by Guberman.²⁰ The Q₁ Rydberg series of states consist of a 2p σ_u core orbital plus excited states of u symmetry. These repulsive states converge to the $^2\Sigma_u^+$ of H₂⁺. The Q₂ Rydberg series of states consist of a 2p π_u core orbitals plus excited states. These repulsive states converge to the $^2\Pi_u$ of H₂⁺. At 100 eV impact energy, both the Q₁ and Q₂ states can contribute to the approximately 4 eV

of kinetic energy released to the pair of excited H-atoms at the peak of the 3p kinetic energy distribution in Fig. 3. However, The Q_1 state is the source of fast H-atoms between 23 and 30 eV impact energies.^{4,5} The lowest Q_1 ($1\Sigma_g^+(1)(2p\sigma_u)^2$) state crosses the Franck-Condon region at 23 eV. in our case, a curve crossing of this doubly excited state via homogeneous perturbation with the dissociating state ($1s\sigma_g$)(3d) (16.67 eV dissociating energy) leads to the first group of fast H-atoms for $n=3$.

Ogawa and co-workers have carefully measured the central peak of the $H\alpha$ line profile. They find the central peak of the $H\alpha$ line profile to have a FWHM of 0.32\AA at 100 eV impact energy. They also find the central peak to be asymmetric due to fine structure. They find the same results as illustrated here from the point of view of line profile and kinetic energy distribution in Fig. 2 and Fig. 3, respectively, for the ratio of the fast to slow component H-atom intensities. The relative intensity of fast atoms increases with increasing principal quantum number. For $H=2p$ we found that 31% of the atoms released in the dissociation processes are fast.^{4,5} Integrating under the kinetic energy distribution curve for $H=3p$ in fig. 3, we find that 47 % of the atoms expelled in the dissociation process are fast. On a qualitative basis the line profile comparison in Fig. 2 shows the same results. If we take the central core FWHM reported by Ito et al.¹ and divide

by six, we would predict that the $H\ I\beta$ central core should be 50 mÅ FWHM. On the other hand, our results suggest a FWHM of less than 30 mÅ. The difference may be ascribed to the lack of resolution in the $H\alpha$ measurements to separate all the fine structure components. The complex line at 6562.8Å is composed of three multiplets at 6562.86 (2p-3s), 6562.74 (2s-3p) and 6562.81 (2p-3d). Under higher resolution there are seven lines. The maximum separation is 120 mÅ and shows the difficulty of determining the slow atom energy (distribution from $H\alpha$ line profiles).

DISCUSSION

We have measured the line profile of $H\ I\beta$ for the first time, and compared it to a higher resolution line profile of $H\ I\alpha$. The resolution was sufficient to determine the kinetic energy distribution function of fast $H(3p)$ atoms from an analysis of the blue wing at 100 eV impact energy. Accurate analysis of the slow energy peak requires higher resolution studies of the line central peak. Preliminary results from our measurement indicate a line FWHM of less than 30 mÅ and a kinetic energy distribution with peak energy between 0 and 1 eV. The quantum yield of fast and slow atoms released in the various types of dissociation processes is 0.53 for slow atoms and 0.47 for fast atoms. A comparison of the fast kinetic

energy distribution for H(3p) from this experiment to that of H(3s,3p,3d) of Ogawa and co-workers are very similar. This result suggests that the three $1\text{ }l\alpha$ multiplets have the same line profile at 100 CV electron impact energy.

Our direct measurement of the $11\text{ }1\beta$ cross section at 100 CV electron impact energy by two different methods are in very good agreement with one another and yield an absolute cross section of $3.28 \pm 0.80 \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^2$. Due to blending with nearby L & W bands, this measurement required an estimate of the profile of the red wing. We assumed the line profile was symmetric, which causes about 10% uncertainty in the cross section. We can extend the absolute cross section result at 100 CV to other energies by normalizing the low resolution 11α cross section results of Karolis and Harting⁷ from 0-105 CV and of Freund et al.¹⁶ beyond 100 eV. This result is shown in Fig. 4. The excitation function indicates the four thresholds found by Karolis and Harting at 16, 26, 35 and 43 eV. Recently from high resolution studies of the excitation function of the 11α wing, Ogawa et al.³ found thresholds at **22-23** and **27** eV. In addition, we show in Fig. 4 the cross section for the entire blended feature of Fig. 1, including 111β and L & W features of Table 1. The cross section of the blended feature is $5.69 \pm$

$0.80 \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^2$ at 100 eV. The peak cross section for both excitation functions in Fig. 4 occur near 80 eV.

our previous indirect estimate of the $\text{H}\alpha$ cross section of $8.3 \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^2$ at 100 eV was based on the 3s, 3p, 3d excitation rates of Julien et al.²¹ and Glass-Maujean²² However, the excitation rates were measured at a threshold (near 16.56 eV) and may change at higher energy. Additionally, these authors have measured the velocity distribution]] of fast and slow atoms, using measurements of anti-crossing signals between Zeeman sub-levels. They have detected slow atoms with energies between 0.3 to 0.4 eV and fast atoms with energies of ~ 10 eV in good agreement with the results for fast atoms presented here. The Doppler shift^{21,22} for the slow atoms corresponds to $\sim 30 \text{ mÅ}$, also in excellent agreement with our estimate.

We can also make an estimate of the contribution of 3p atoms to the $\text{H}\alpha$ cross section. The branching ratio, ω_{1s3p} , for $1s \rightarrow 3p$ emission is 0.881. The excitation cross section for 3p at 100 eV can be found to be $Q_{1p}/\omega_{1s3p} = 3.72 \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^2$. On this basis we estimate that the 3p atoms contribute $40.0 \pm 10\%$ of the total $\text{H}\alpha$ cross section of $9.3 \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^2$.⁷ This fractional percentage indicate there is probably no preferential population of 3s, 3p, 3d sub-levels and the $\text{H}\alpha$ radiation is nearly the sum of the cross sections for $\text{H}(3s)$ and $\text{H}(3d)$ dissociation. At 100 eV. Our results indicate that the

contribution to $H\alpha$ is 4.7% in agreement with earlier conclusions by Vroom and de Heer.²³ Vroom and de Heer also indicate an upper limit to $H(3p)$ dissociative cross section of $3.57 \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^2$ at 50 eV. The cross section plot in fig. 4 can be used to give the $H(3p)$ cross section of $3.18 \times 10^{-19} \text{ cm}^2$ at 50 eV.

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Table 1 H₂ Emission Spectral Intensities near H Lyman-β Transition

Wavelength (A)	Intensity ¹ ()	Relative Intensity	Assignment ²
1025.880	3.0490E-02	2.1256E-03	2 (10, 5) P Werner
1025.886	4.6709E+00	3.2563E-01	1 (5, 3) Q Werner
1025.888	8.6408E-19	6.0240E-20	13(13, 0) R Lyman
1025.895	2.3861E-04	1.6635E-05	4(11,11) Q D
1025.911	1.4344E+01	1.0000E+00	1 (3, 2) Q Werner
1025.918	8.3739E-08	5.8379E-09	8(2, 5) QD
1025.922	1.0748E-07	7.4930E-09	6(11, 5) R Werner
1025.935	7.3617E+00	5.1323E-01	1 (6, 0) P Lyman
1025.936	6.8840E-03	4.7992E-04	3(10, 5) R Werner
1025.957	5.9106E-02	4.1206E-03	3 24, 4) P Lyman
1025.961	5.1620E-08	3.5987E-09	8 4, 2) Q Werner
1025.974	4.3545E-09	3.0358E-10	1 36, 5) P Lyman
1025.998	5.8953E-05	4.1099E-06	6 5, 5) R B'
1026.016	2.2821E-10	1.5910E-11	1 35, 5) R Lyman
1026.019	8.7148E-02	6.0756E-03	1 14, 2) P Lyman
1026.072	1.3969E-13	9.7386E-15	10(19, 2) R Lyman
1026.079	3.5100E-01	2.4470E-02	3 (3, 6) Q D
1026.096	5.1721E-05	3.6058E-06	3(16,14) Q D
1026.099	5.1928E-09	3.6202E-10	10(1, 3) P B'

1 Effective intensities (unit: 10⁻²⁰ photon per H₂ molecule)

2 Transition is labelled by J''(v', v'') ΔJ. Lyman, Werner, B', and D refer to 2pσ B'¹Σ_u⁺ ← X'¹Σ_g⁺, 2pπ C'¹Π_u ← X'¹Σ_g⁺, 3pσ B'¹Σ_u⁺ ← X'¹Σ_g⁺, and 3pπ D'¹Π_u ← X'¹Σ_g⁺ electronic transitions, respectively.

TABLE OF FIGURES

FIGURE 1. Overplot of experimental spectra: a) 100 eV H I β line profile in second order (open diamonds); b) 100 eV H I α line profile in third order (filled squares) ; c) zero order slit function of experimental apparatus scaled to second order (plus signs). The data statistics were better than 1% in a), b) and c).. The wavelength step size in second order was 4 mÅ and in third order was 2.667 mÅ. The operating conditions were established as follows: 1) background gas pressure of 2.3×10^{-4} torr and 2) electron beam current of 130 A. Peak signal was 4000 and 13000 counts in the 100 eV H I β and H I α line profiles ,respectively, with background signals of under 100 counts.

FIGURE 2. Deconvolution of the 100 eV line profiles data of H I β (solid line) and H I α (dash line) of Fig. 1 along with a comparison to published data of H α line profiles.

FIGURE 3. Fast H(3p) and H(2p) atom kinetic energy distribution functions.

FIGURE 4. Estimated absolute cross section of $H\text{I}\beta$ from published optical excitation function measurement of $H\alpha$. The excitation function measurements of Karolis and Harting⁷ shown as open diamonds from 0 - 100 CV and Freund et al.¹⁶ shown as plus signs from 100- 290 eV, are normalized to the 100 CV cross section of $H\text{I}\beta$ from this work. The cross section of the blended $H\text{I}\beta$ and $H\gamma$ feature from this work is shown as a filled square.

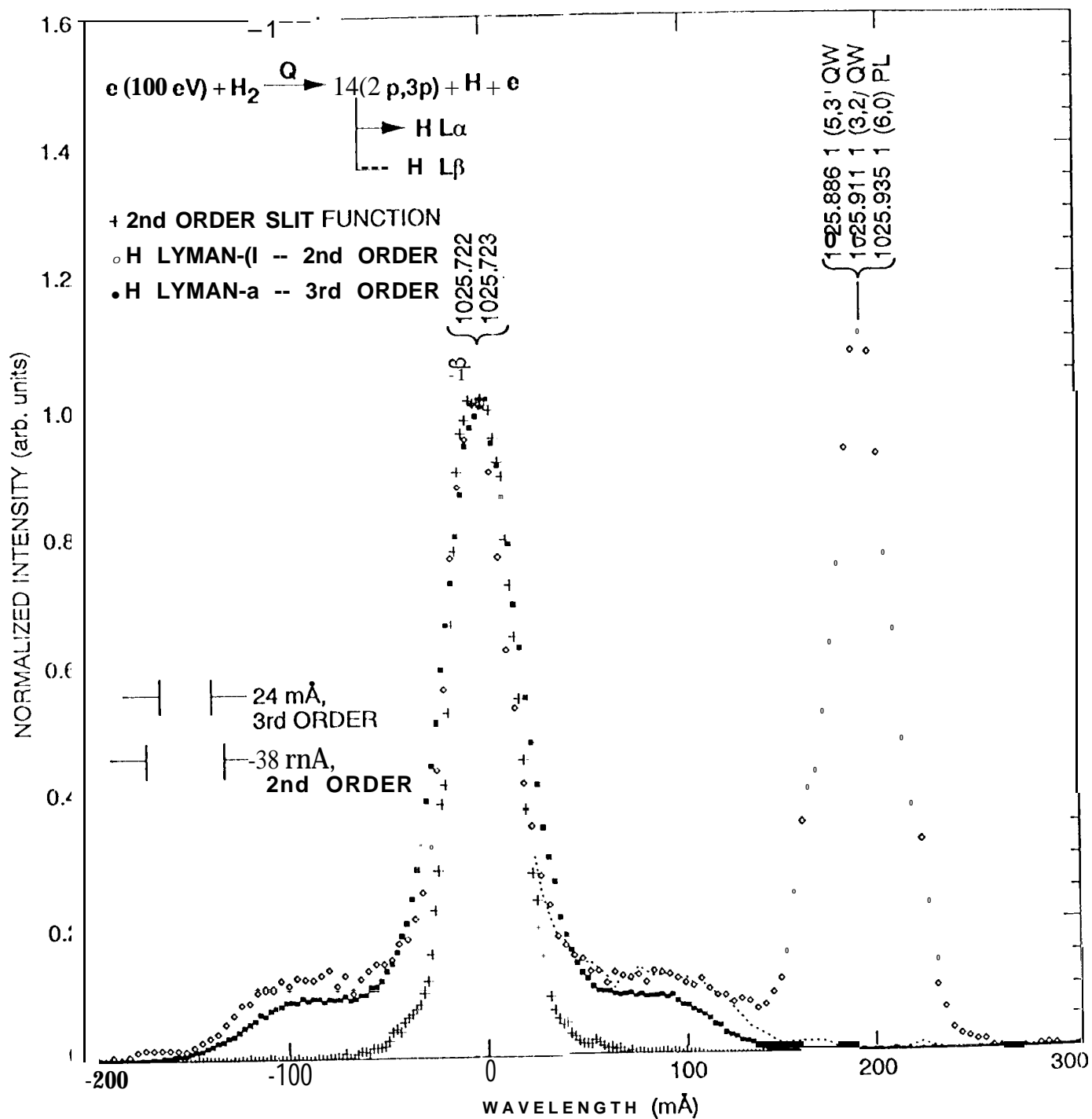


Fig. 1

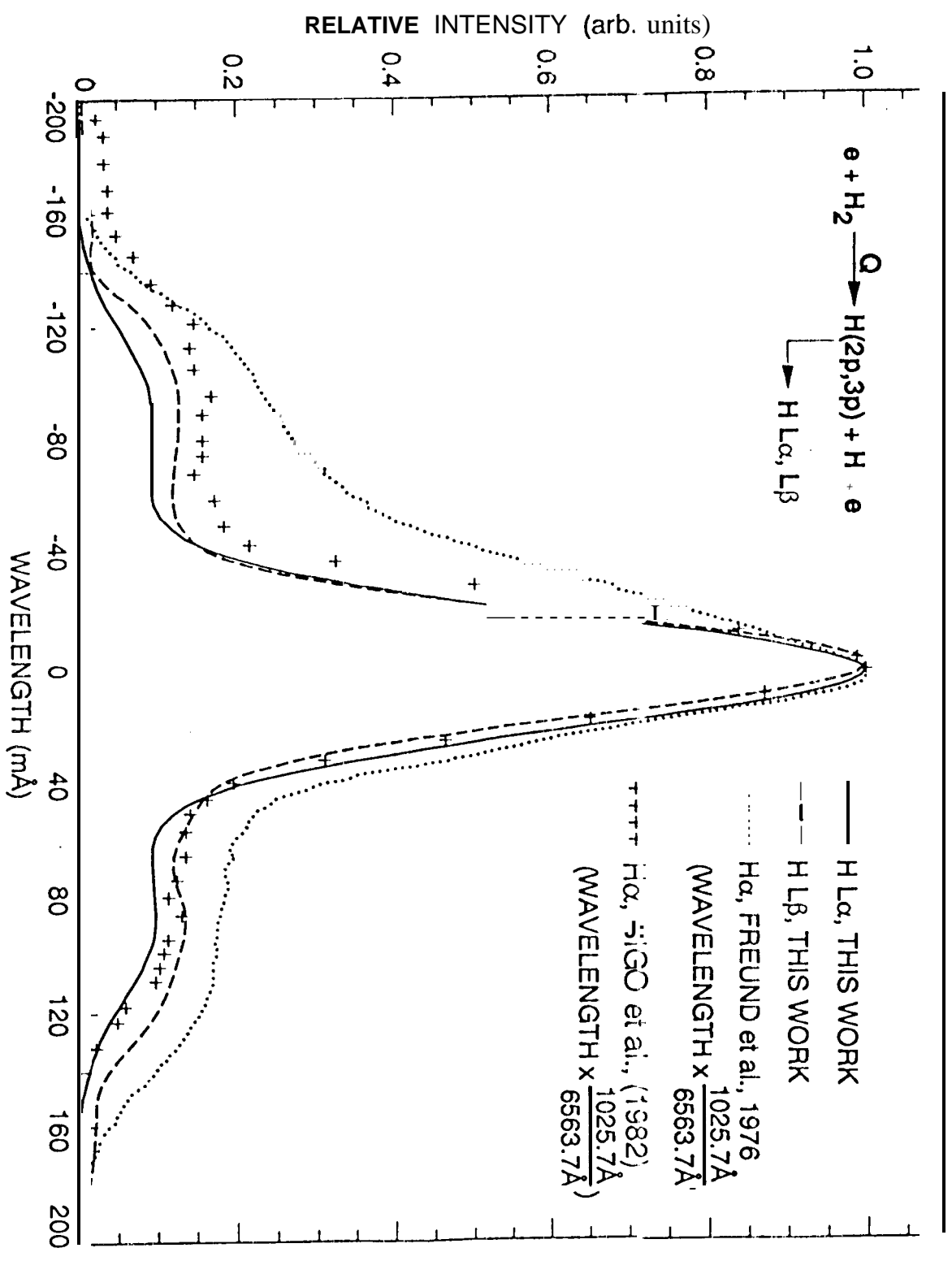


Fig 2

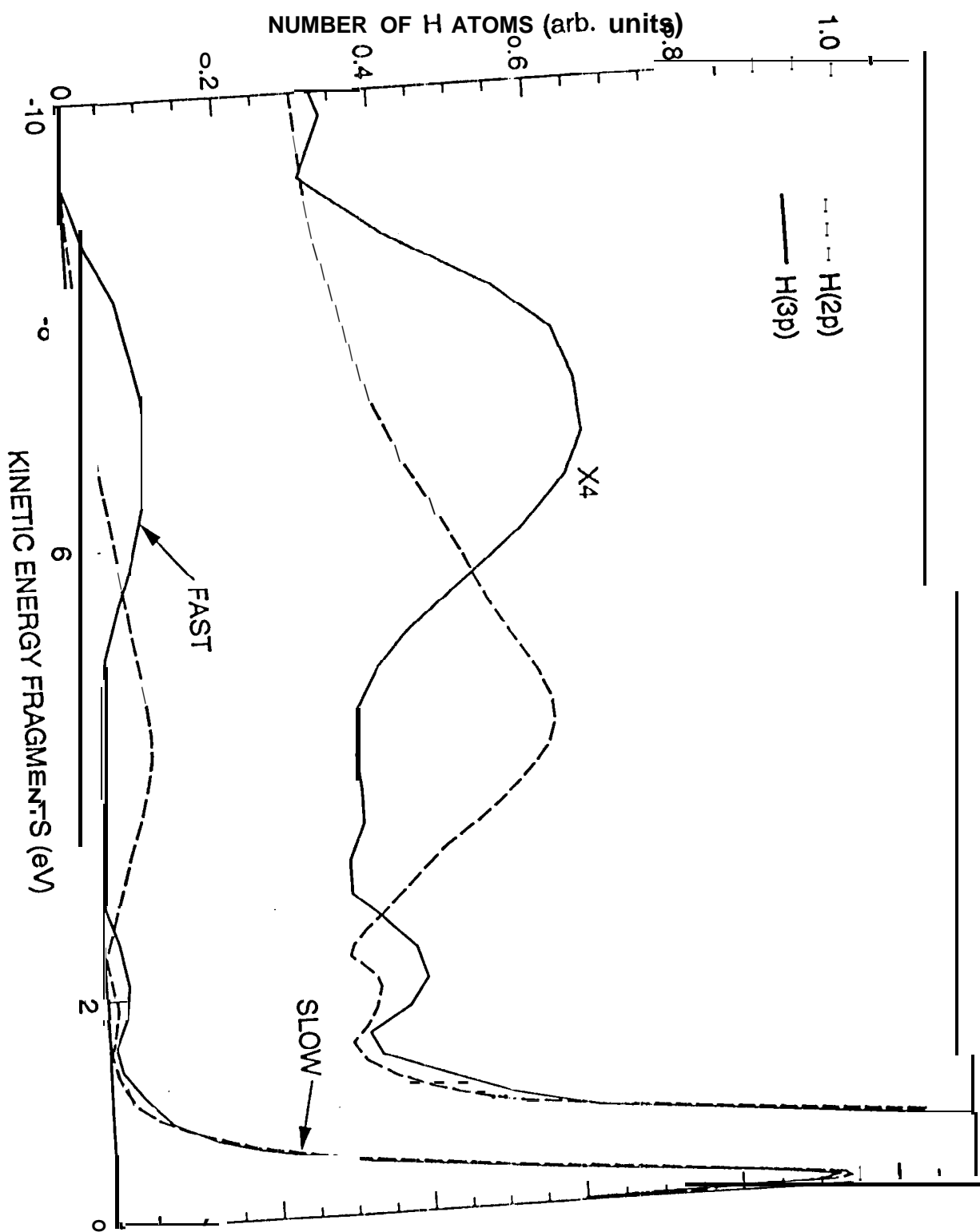


Fig. 3

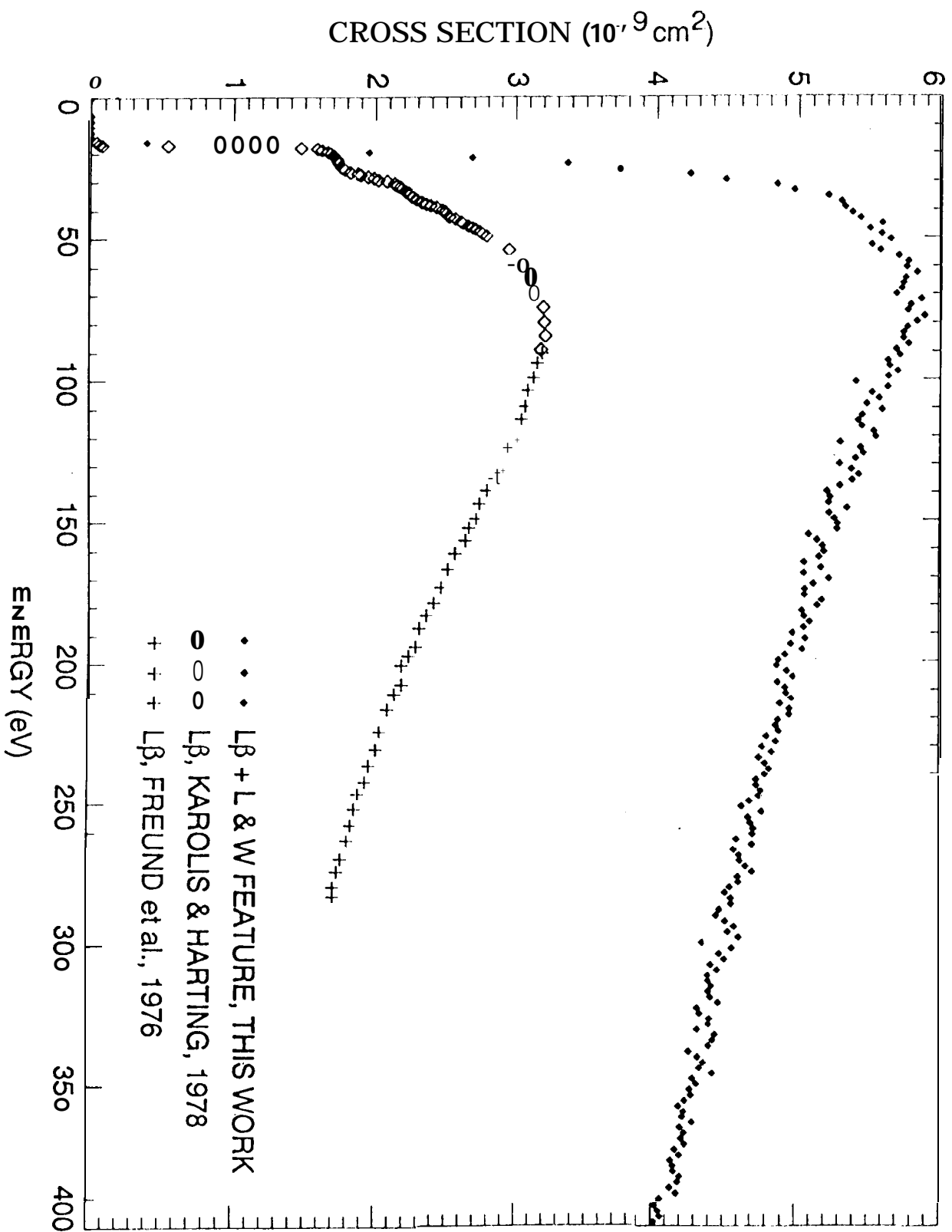


Fig. 4